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**Tennessee Williams: In-depth and Innovative
At Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival
September 24 – 27, 2009**

Highlights Include *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Hotel Plays*, and *The 21 Gun Salute*

Provincetown, MA – This fall, the Fourth Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival offers an adventure in Williams and Theater from September 24 - 27. From the wharf to the hotel to the museum, all the town's a stage for over a dozen special events and innovative productions, including two world premieres, from around the country and across the sea. TW Festival Curator David Kaplan invites all to an exciting experience "to rediscover the greatness of this powerful writer in light of today's expectations, apart from the inhibitions of his own time. It's a rewarding adventure you will remember for a lifetime." Some highlights are:

A Streetcar Named Desire – See selections from this universally well-known play as if for the first time in this New Zealand production with a Maori actor as Stanley Kowalski, in the role made famous by Marlon Brando. TW Festival Director Jef Hall-Flavin, who directed this play says, "The play really sings with these distinctive New Zealand accents. These skilled, passionate, grounded actors remove the barrier of familiarity and create a surprising play to experience in the here and now."

The Hotel Plays – Williams set many of his plays in hotel rooms and boarding houses: way stations between life and death, dream and reality. Festival attendees will gather in **The Gifford House** and move from room to room to see short plays by Williams from all over the country. The plays are offered in two series and include productions from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, The Infinite Theater in New York City, Emerson College, Boston, Payomet Performing Arts Center, Truro and more.

21 Gun Salute - Inspired by this year's theme of "*The Fight for Life*," the festival blasts off with a multimedia performance created by internationally known Provincetown artist Jay Critchley. Viewers will see the Provincetown harbor light up with rocket flares while hearing a WOMR simulcast of the artist's satirical radio play that harkens back to the 40's yet comments on today's cultural wars. A **21 Blender Salute** will also erupt with delicious frozen kamikazes.

Other highlights are:

Lanford Wilson, Pulitzer Award Winning Playwright in a conversation over coffee.

From Chicago: TW Festival Curator David Kaplan's world premiere of recently discovered, **The Day On Which A Man Dies**, a fantasia on the death of Jackson Pollock, which received rave reviews in Chicago preview.

From Norway: **Miss Julie**, showcasing August Strindberg's influence on Williams' writing.

From Minneapolis: The world premiere production of **The Enemy: Time**, a precursor to Sweet Bird of Youth, followed by the film starring Paul Newman.

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David Kaplan | *Curator*

Jef Hall-Flavin | *Director*

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From Boston: The world premiere of **The Remarkable Rooming House of Madame LeMonde**, a twisted tea party you won't forget. A goldmine for TW scholars who will explore this for revelations about TW's feelings during his last years.

From Cape Cod: **The Case of the Crushed Petunias**, directed by Provincetown favorite Patrick Falco, a little-known Williams play written in 1941, takes place in small Massachusetts town. It is performed in a storefront at the end of a historic walking tour.

Individual Tickets as well as Discount Festival Packages are available. See the full schedule of events and plays at www.twptown.org. Tickets are available online or by phone at 866.789.TENN.

Attached is an image of Maori actor Jarod Rawiri as Stanley Kowalski in New Zealand production of Streetcar Named Desire. Photo credit: Melanie Peters